

# Algorithm A – Universal

Client presents for services

## Universal Assessment

“Because healthy relationships are important to your overall health and well being, this clinic has a policy that we ask every patient about current and past relationships”

No abuse indicated  
currently or in the past

Abuse may be present or  
has occurred in the past

Abuse is indicated either  
currently or in the past

## Universal Education

“Because violence in relationships can be common, we provide this information to every patient. If you don’t need this information yourself, feel free to pass it on to a friend.”

See Algorithm B

See Algorithm C

# Algorithm B – Possible Abuse/Uncertain Response

Client indicates abuse may be present or occurred in the past

Probe further and prompt with questions

“Have there been other times when...?” or “Have any other partners done....?”

No abuse indicated / 1x time in the past

Abuse is indicated by the client either currently or in the past

Universal Education

“I’m really glad to hear nothing like this is going on for you right now. We are giving this card to everyone so they will know what to do if they ever need help or know someone who IS having difficulties in their relationship.”

See Algorithm C

# Algorithm C – Acknowledged Abuse

Client indicates abuse is present or occurred in the past

## Probe/Prompt/Complete Danger Assessment

“How long has the violence been going on?” “Does anyone else know about this?”  
“Do you feel safe going home...?”

Safe

### Universal Education & Supported Referral

“I am glad you told me - I care about your health & safety. If this gets worse, please tell me - you are not alone. Here is someone else who can help you think it through.”

Unsafe

### Safety Planning & Supported Referral

“I am worried about your safety. Is there someone who will help you/would you like to talk to someone about safe options before you leave the office?”